

Indeed, he worked hard to obtain new equipment, shorten response times, and streamline the delivery of service to make our fire department more effective. In an emergency, every second counts; Dave's commitment to excellence surely saved lives.

Dave retires from the City of Newark on June 30, 2014, after 29 years of dedicated service to the city. These years have been marked by exemplary dedication to the best interests of the community and his fellow firefighters.

It is an honor to formally recognize the contributions that David Giordano has made to the citizens of Newark throughout his career, to thank him for his tremendous service, and to wish him happiness in a well-deserved retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO LYNN WOLF GENTZLER

● Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I wish to honor Lynn Wolf Gentzler, who has had a remarkable 42-year career with the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-Columbia and the State Historical Society of Missouri. Next month, Lynn will leave her position to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. I have served on the board of trustees of the State Historical Society for some time, and I can tell you that Lynn has played a critical role in the promotion of the history of our State of Missouri.

As a native of DeKalb County, Lynn Wolf Gentzler attended the University of Missouri-Columbia and graduated with honors and a degree in education. She then went on to earn her master's degree and began a career as a manuscript specialist at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection in Columbia. Over years of dedicated hard work, she rose to the position of senior manuscript specialist and assistant director of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

She eventually assumed the positions of assistant director of the State Historical Society of Missouri and associate editor of the Missouri Historical Review in 1990. A year later, she became the associate director of the State Historical Society in Missouri, while continuing in her role as the associate editor of the Missouri Historical Review. In 2003, the board of trustees for the State Historical Society of Missouri asked Lynn to take up the role of acting executive director.

Lynn Wolf Gentzler is a leader who has demonstrated an incredible understanding and commitment to the past, present, and future of her community. Outside of her work with the Missouri Historical Review, Lynn's impressive authored and editorial works include entries in the "Dictionary of Missouri Biography," the "American National Biography," and the State Historical Society's publication entitled "Marking Missouri History." In addition, she edited every single book published by the State Historical Society of Missouri over the past decade.

In 2004, Lynn received the State Historical Society's Distinguished Service Award and Medallion for her outstanding decades of service to the cultivation and promotion of Midwestern history. Her enthusiastic and determined leadership as an administrator, writer, and editor has played a vital role in the preservation of our State and Nation's history.

Lynn has provided an incredible service to the State of Missouri for over 40 years, and I wish her well on her retirement.●

WARREN COUNTY, IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State. And it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act, and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Warren County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Warren County worth over \$6.8 million and successfully acquired financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than \$9.5 million to the local economy.

Of course, my favorite memories of working together include my support of the great work done by public safety entities in the county, working to improve local transportation infrastructure, as well as a strong partnership with Simpson College.

Among the highlights:

Investing in Iowa's economic development through targeted community projects: In Central Iowa, we have worked together to grow the economy by making targeted investments in important economic development projects, including improved roads and bridges, modernized sewer and water systems, and better housing options for

residents of Warren County. In many cases, I have secured Federal funding that has leveraged local investments and served as a catalyst for a whole ripple effect of positive, creative changes. For example, working with mayors, city council members, and local economic development officials in Warren County, I have fought for more than \$1.4 million for improvements to Highway 92, helping to create jobs and expand economic opportunities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than \$132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Warren County has received over \$4.6 million in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Warren County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$367,796.

Disaster mitigation and prevention: In 1993, when historic floods ripped through Iowa, it became clear to me that the national emergency-response infrastructure was woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Iowans in flood-ravaged communities. I went to work dramatically expanding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's hazard mitigation program, which helps communities reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery period. Disaster relief means more than helping people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, it means doing our best to prevent the same predictable flood or other catastrophe from recurring in the future. The hazard mitigation program that I helped create in 1993 provided critical support to Iowa communities impacted by the devastating floods of 2008. Warren County has received over \$1.1 million to remediate and prevent widespread destruction from natural disasters.

Agricultural and rural development: Because I grew up in a small town in rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs;

strong, progressive conservation assistance for agricultural producers; renewable energy opportunities; and robust economic development in our rural communities. Since 1991, through various programs authorized through the farm bill, Warren County has received more than \$1.4 million from a variety of farm bill programs.

Keeping Iowa communities safe: I also firmly believe that our first responders need to be appropriately trained and equipped, able to respond to both local emergencies and to statewide challenges such as, for instance, the methamphetamine epidemic. Since 2001, Warren County's fire departments have received over \$1.1 million for firefighter safety and operations equipment and \$175,000 in Department of Justice funding to support law enforcement efforts in the county.

Disability rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf. But I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency. Nearly a quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa—not just in curb cuts or closed-captioned television, but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Warren County, both those with and without disabilities.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Warren County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Warren County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives. And, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. I will always be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

BUTLER COUNTY, IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities

across my State. And it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Butler County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Butler County worth over \$2.6 million and successfully acquired financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than \$11 million to the local economy.

Of course, one of my favorite memories of working together has been a terrific partnership with the Butler County Rural Electric Cooperative, REC, which has done a tremendous job at securing funds for a variety of local economic development projects. I am particularly proud of the work I have done with the Homeward, Inc. project to provide quality affordable housing to Iowans throughout the region. I am pleased to have secured more than \$1.9 million over the years to assist in this important work. I should also single out the outstanding leadership and tireless leadership of the former CEO and general manager of the Butler County REC, Bob Bauman, for his years of service and vision. He is the kind of Iowan, who has done so much to help those that have so little, that makes me so proud to have served Iowa in the Senate.

Among the highlights:

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than \$132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a

school district. Over the years, Butler County has received \$664,437 in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Butler County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$115,000.

Disaster mitigation and prevention: In 1993, when historic floods ripped through Iowa, it became clear to me that the national emergency-response infrastructure was woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Iowans in flood-ravaged communities. I went to work dramatically expanding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's hazard mitigation program, which helps communities reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery period. Disaster relief means more than helping people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, it means doing our best to prevent the same predictable flood or other catastrophe from recurring in the future. The hazard mitigation program that I helped create in 1993 provided critical support to Iowa communities impacted by the devastating floods of 2008. Butler County has received over \$6 million to remediate and prevent widespread destruction from natural disasters.

Agricultural and rural development: Because I grew up in a small town in rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs; strong, progressive conservation assistance for agricultural producers; renewable energy opportunities; and robust economic development in our rural communities. Since 1991, through various programs authorized through the farm bill, Butler County has received more than \$5.8 million from a variety of farm bill programs.

Keeping Iowa communities safe: I also firmly believe that our first responders need to be appropriately trained and equipped, able to respond to both local emergencies and to statewide challenges such as the methamphetamine epidemic. For instance, Butler County has received \$449,956 in Community Oriented Policing Services grants. Also, since 2001, Butler County's fire departments have received over \$323,000 for firefighter safety and operations equipment.

Disability rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf. But I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, and the ADA Amendments Act, I have